

Attorney Docket No.: SP03-128

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.	10/670865	Confirmation No.:	5794
Applicant	Gilbert De Angelis, et al	TC/A.U.:	3652
Filed	September 25, 2003	Examiner:	Joshua I. Rudawitz
Title	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REACTOR MONOLITH LOADING		

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's telephone conversation of May 3, 2010, please amend the above-identified as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for delivering a plurality of reactor monoliths into an interior of a reactor, comprising:

extending at least one tubular member into an interior of a reactor such that a first end of the at least one tubular member is located near an opening in the reactor, and a second end of the at least one tubular member is inserted into the interior of the reactor, said tubular member having an outer wall defining an interior space adapted to allow sliding movement of a reactor monolith therethrough, and a plurality of engagement members located within the interior space of the at least one tubular member and spaced along a length thereof, each engagement member actuatable between an extended position and a retracted position; and

controlling the plurality of engagement members such that each engagement member actuates between the extended position, thereby preventing sliding movement of the monolith through the tube, and the retracted position, thereby allowing the monolith to slide past the engagement member within the tube.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the controlling step includes controlling the members in a sequential manner, thereby slowly moving the monoliths along the length of the tube and preventing a continuous free-fall descent.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the controlling step further includes controlling said engagement member via a controller.

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the controller comprises an air logic circuit.

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5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least one tubular member in said extending step includes a plurality of tubular members linked together in an end-to-end orientation.

6. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the engagement members in said extending step includes a plurality of expandable bladders, and the step of controlling the engagement members includes inflating and deflating the bladders.

Claims 7-18 (Cancelled)

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Per the telephone conversation of May 3, 2010 with the Examiner that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance pending the cancellation of the withdrawn claims, claims 7-18 are hereby cancelled. Claims 1-6 remain in this application.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

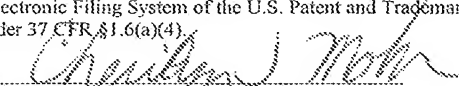
Please direct any questions or comments to Susan S. Wilks at (607) 974-8831.

Respectfully submitted,



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DATE: May 7, 2010

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